

The Bulletin

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Mary Washington College's student newspaper since 1922.

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dancel!**
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style at the
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inside

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after gun found
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weather



TODAY:

Rain and snow
with a high of
36 and a low of
27.

FRIDAY:

Few snow
showers with a
high of 42 and
a low of 26.

SATURDAY:

Partly cloudy
with a high of
47 and a low of
41.

SUNDAY:

Few showers
with a high of
41 and a low of
29.

verbatim

"He wasn't
planning on
harming
anyone.
Guys like
guns, and
they like to
shoot
bottles."

Hope
Hassell

Anti-Gay Protesters Expected This Weekend

Controversial Westboro Baptist Church To Picket Student Production of 'The Laramie Project'



Above: Students (left to right) Joe Hammock, Nathan Figueroa, Phil Seidman, Brandon Redden, Liz Beebe, Barbara Howlin, Kat Mernin, Ryane Studivant and Jennifer Gaines perform in the dress rehearsal of The Laramie Project. Right: Members of the Westboro Baptist Church protest at a college.

By PHILLIP GRIFFITH
News Editor

When Associate Professor of Theatre and Dance Gregg Stull showed the flyer from Westboro Baptist Church to the cast of "The Laramie Project," half of the cast members burst into tears.

The news release from the anti-gay Kansas church, headed by Pastor Fred Phelps, called the college "dyke-infested" and called the play "a tacky piece of sick fag melodrama with zero social value or literary merit."

"If you're not very familiar with Phelps' rhetoric, it is very hurtful," Stull said. "But that dissipated very quickly. People were immediately called to action."

The flyer also said members of the Westboro church will be picketing at the March 1 performance of the play and at local

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Photo Courtesy Westboro Baptist Church

MWC's Terrorism Emergency Plan: Sit Tight And Wait



Photo Courtesy Office of College Relations
Rick Hurley.

By TERRY L. NORTON
Staff Writer

Mary Washington College's crisis plan, in the event of a Red Level Terrorist Threat in the immediate area, is that it has no plan, other than advising members of the college community to stay right where they are until told to do otherwise.

College officials told *The Bulletin* that they would post announcements about a Red Level Threat on the school's web site, but acknowledged that they have no backup system in place for communicating with members of the college community should the power go out at the school.

"There is no way such as a hard-wire

alarm to notify the campus community of a present threat," said Lt. James C. Snipes, acting chief of Campus Police.

In addition, college officials say they do not have an evacuation plan in place should members of the college community need to exit the campus en masse in the event of a Red Level Threat.

According to the Virginia Homeland Security web site, a Red Level Threat is when a terrorist attack has occurred or intelligence indicates one is likely to occur.

On Feb. 14, Richard Hurley, executive vice president and chief financial officer sent an email to the members of the College community in response to the federal government's upgrade to a Orange Level

Threat and calls "attention to the structure that exists at" the College for handling emergencies.

"First, I want to assure you that our campus environment is safe and secure," Hurley said in the email.

This has been his response to calls from concerned parents about the college plans after the Orange Level was issued and Homeland Security indicated that terrorists might target public places such as universities and malls.

Orange Level is the second highest threat level and means, meaning that there is a high risk of a terrorist attack but no targets have been identified.

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To B Or Not To B?

Faculty Senate Votes To Redefine Grading System

By PORTSIA SMITH
Assistant News Editor

There's nothing unusual about an "A" grade at Mary Washington College anymore. And that "B," once "distinctly above average," is now merely "commendable."

And since the college's faculty is uncomfortable with the idea of "average"—which one professor dubbed a "highly ambiguous word"—a grade of "C" will henceforth be described as "adequate."

Those were among the changes in the official description of grades at MWC, passed by the faculty Senate on Feb. 5.

Students seemed to be indifferent to the new wording.

"It clarifies things a little bit," said junior Blair Parsons. "But it's not really worth passing a motion and wasting everyone's time."

The current academic catalogue rates academic performance in the following manner: A = unusual excellence, B = work distinctly above average, C = work of average or medium quality, D = work of

below average quality, and F = failure.

With the new wording, A = excellent, B = commendable, C = adequate, D = marginal, and F = failure.

The motion was brought to the Faculty Senate by the Academic Affairs Committee.

According to Professor of Economics Robert Rycroft, who is on the committee, the main reason for the change was to eliminate the word "average" in the old definitions. The old language was thought to be misleading because it is not specified what an "average" grade means.

"To me average is a highly ambiguous word," Rycroft said. "It can mean adequate or it can refer to the arithmetic mean and these are not necessarily the same thing."

Craig Naylor, assistant professor of music and faculty secretary, recorded at the meeting that the wording change was needed to address the fact that Mary Washington College students are all above average and that a grade of C often differs from a mathematical "average" and creates a discrepancy.

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Apartments Will Lack Parking

142 Available Parking Spots For 350 Students

By JAMES TRAMEL
Staff Writer

Marye's Heights was once the site of bloody, historic battle. On Dec. 13, 1862 General Ambrose Burnside had thrown repeated attacks against Robert E. Lee's impenetrable line on Marye's Heights in an epic conflict. Next fall may feature a battle of the apartments.

The Apartments at MWC, formerly Marye's Heights has 142 parking spaces and a planned student population of 350. With the proposed parking deck, planned by the administration to be built with the new fitness center, scratched, the college is in the process of finding a contractor to begin an inquiry into campus parking.

"The parking situation is definitely a problem we want to solve," said Bernard Chirico, vice president for Student Affairs and dean of Students. "We're looking into a much bigger scope than Marye's Heights, however. We want to survey the entire campus, and get the professional opinion and recommendations from a professional analyst."

Chirico would not give the name of the new company as the contract was still in

negotiation. He said that the negotiations should end soon, and the campus will be surveyed before the end of the semester.

"We hope to implement immediate short term changes as soon as we get them, and then plan for the long-term solutions," Chirico said.

John Willemtum, vice president of Facilities Services, said "The new parking deck was scratched because there was just no money in the budget for it. The new parking advisory consultant is different, in this respect, as they are specifically able to assess and make recommendations to parking problems."

With Marye's Heights the administration expects more students to be on campus all the time next semester. While this may create additional parking problems, it may also solve others.

Richard V. Hurley, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer said, "We're hoping to attract more students back to campus with Marye's Heights. If we have more students on campus, then we will have less commuter students."

While the increase in the amount of rooms on campus will increase the amount

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Police

By PORTSIA SMITH
Assistant News Editor

Beat



Feb. 8—Around 12:35 a.m., a 19-year-old female student in Mason Hall was found to be in possession of seven cans of alcohol. The alcohol was confiscated and the student was referred to administration.

Feb. 1—At 5:25 p.m., a student in Virginia Hall reported that another resident had choked her. Campus police were called to the scene, but no criminal charges were filed. The incident was referred to Residence Life.

Feb. 14—Housekeeping staff reported that someone had written the word "FAG" in shaving cream on a brick wall in the rear of Bushnell Hall.

Feb. 17—Around 7 p.m., a student reported her backpack stolen from the rotunda area of Trinkle Hall. The student said she left her backpack there while she went to a basketball game and to dinner. When she returned to Trinkle to study her backpack was missing. The contents of the backpack was later found in a box on the second floor of Trinkle, but the backpack was not found. The case is under investigation.

Feb. 18—Around 11 a.m., two campus police cars were found to be damaged by snow and ice that fell off of the roof of Lee Hall. Both vehicles were considered a total loss. The estimated amount of damage is unknown at this time.

Academic Regulations Eased For Jocks

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Vice President and Dean of the Faculty Phil Hall was in favor of the change.

"I agree with the idea that the use of the word average is misleading," Hall said. "But it wasn't easy trying to find language that didn't use it."

Two other motions were passed at the meeting. According to the Naylor, the first motion was to enable students that come to the college with a language proficiency, for example from an extended stay in a foreign country, to be able to move into advanced level classes in that language.

The last motion was to clarify "good academic standing," especially in relation to student participation in non-academic activities and in determining NCAA eligibility.

Mary Washington College's current regulation mistakenly states that if a student has a grade point

average below 2.0, then they are no longer in "good academic standing," and will be placed on probation or suspension.

The new regulation clarifies the regulation and states that students are placed on probation or suspension when they fall below a certain GPA. This GPA changes as the number of credits taken increases; students with under 30 credits must have a GPA above 1.25 to be in good academic standing, students with 31-60 credits must have a GPA above 1.50, students with 61-90 credits must have a GPA above 1.75, and students with more than 91 credits must have a GPA above 2.0.

All three motions were passed either unanimously or with a single dissent. They will appear in the next academic catalogue and take effect in Fall 2003.

MWC Prepares For The Worst

▲ **TERRORISM**, page 1.

Hurley's memo instructs the community to go to Campus Advisories on the college's web site. At present, all that web page contains is a verbatim copy of the email, links to Virginia Homeland Security Threat Conditions and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, and a short notice of other recommendations. However, the college lacks a full structured emergency plan.

The first problem is how to inform the campus community that a Red Level Threat is underway. According to Ronald Singleton, senior vice president for Advancement and College Relations, that notification would come through the Internet or phones. In the event that power is lost, he said they would have to go around to each college building to post notices.

However, unless one happens to look at Campus Advisories, one won't know such a terrorist event is occurring.

"We have the campus hotline, the 2424 number, which can handle thousands of calls at a time," Hurley said. "Do not call the police and tie up their phones."

Another problem is instructions on what the campus community should do if a terrorist attack is taking place. Singleton said that they do not consider Fredericksburg to be a terrorist target, and D.C. is 53 miles away.

However, Quantico Marine Corps Base with the FBI training facility is only 16 miles up Interstate 95 and Ft. A.P. Hill 10 miles southeast of Fredericksburg.

"We haven't gotten that specific," Singleton said.

In an interview, Hurley said, "Should such an incident [Red Level alert] occur, we would shelter in place. If we thought we had the time, to cancel classes, direct residence back to halls and commuters home, we would. If the event is too imminent, we would immediately insist everyone stay where they are until further notice."

College officials said they were to have a meeting on Feb. 17 about a Code Red emergency plan, but they had to postpone it due to snow.

"We do know people should not get on the highway," Singleton said. "Stay put."

Snipes said that the police follow the Emergency Operations Plan in the event of building takeovers, bomb threats, or Biochemical attacks. The Campus Police are part of an emergency response mechanism that can take action independently of the committee. Snipes explained that the city services would be involved in any response to campus terrorist acts.

Hurley said the college would lock down residence halls so there was only single access and egress and monitor that through Residence Life staff and student representatives such as RAs. They would restrict access to all buildings using College ID cards.

There is also nothing on the web page explaining what would happen if food or water were contaminated.

"We are just starting to discuss this aspect," Singleton said. "Seacobeck has a large amount of food stockpiled. The College uses municipal water and the city has water towers. Basic necessities are protected."

Dining Facilities General Manager Peter Labrecque said that their contingency plan requires that they have food on hand that has a shelf-life of 45 days. This is items such as canned or powdered food.

"That does not mean we have food for 45 days," he said. "That would be impractical."

Hurley had suggestions for the campus community: Call the police or use the emergency call buttons placed around campus if something suspicious is happening. Don't leave packages such as briefcases and book bags unattended. Keep in touch with the Residence Life staff about what to do in a crisis situation, and check the link to Virginia Homeland Security.

Both Hurley and Singleton insisted that there are no critical facilities or specific hazards on campus that would be targets for attacks.

So far this committee and emergency plan are not costing the College anything.

"It's all brainpower," Singleton said. "Any action by services—police and fire—would come out of their budgets. We will see if there's anything we need to purchase."

Another Battle Might Break Out At Marye's Heights

▲ **PARKING**, page 1.

of students living on campus, it will not affect the amount of students attending the college. Hurley also said one of the parking ideas may be to open more of the William Street Lot to residents of Marye's Heights, but that will depend on the parking analysis.

Lt. James Snipes said that there are currently 145 spaces for residents and 45 for commuters at the William Street Lot, located adjacent to Marye's Heights.

Senior Shannon MacMichael parks in the commuter spaces at the William Street lot currently. "I took the bigger room, and so my roommate got the parking space," she said.

There is currently one allotted space per apartment at Marye's Heights. Myra Fox, the current assistant manager, said the apartments are currently set up this way to ensure every resident has at least one space, and the remaining space are available for visitors.

Junior Jennifer Howard knows the difficulty in finding a parking space. During last week's snowstorm she walked to campus.

"I knew that several of the available spaces were taken away on College Avenue due to the snow," Howard said. "With as few as there are now, there was no way I was going to drive to campus."



Justice is Blind, Peace is Naked

OCCIDENTAL, Calif.—TRUTH, COMPASSION and PASSION were the messages over 100 women sent to the world when they convened on a hillside, took off their clothes, and spelled the words with their bodies. It was one of the largest gatherings of women yet protesting war by forming words in the nude, reported the Associated Press. "I was just going to come and watch," said Barbara Bochinski, who ended up helping to form the "U" in TRUTH. "Then I felt like I wanted to do something positive to offset the fear I feel. When I was lying down there I felt so positive I didn't mind the cold." The first demonstration of this kind happened when more than 40 women got together to spell out PEACE in Marin County, CA. Since then more than 40 similar demonstrations have been held around the world. "I'm excited to be a part of this," said Kim Monser, a participant. "The gathering of women is always very powerful. There is energy there."

National Guardsman Throws Party; Gets Married

TAOS, Mo.—Jefferson City police detective and Missouri National Guard Sergeant Eric Wilde was called to active duty and prepared to leave for a year. He visited his priest, cleaned out his basement and went to the bank to get everything in order. Then he threw himself a going-away party—or that's what all his family and friends thought. "I have to take one more step to make sure everything is in order," said Wilde to the assembled crowd. "We're going to turn this party into a wedding!" The Associated Press reported that after Wilde said this Adrienne Jeffries, his fiancée, entered the back of the hall with her father. "These vows are beautiful words representing even more beautiful intentions," said Judge Mark Richardson, who performed the ceremony for the couple. "You will find that as you live, these vows will be yours, investing your time, love and commitment to each other. The happy times of your life will be twice as joyous, because there will be someone to share this joy with."

Budget Cuts Lead School Official To Eliminate Himself

DOLLAR BAY, Mich.—Superintendent Robert Barrette said that in order to relieve the budget deficit in his district, he will propose the elimination of his own position to the school board in March. When they meet to develop next year's budget Barrette plans to suggest his own termination and the consolidation of his job with the job of William Tarbox, the principal in Dollar Bay, reported the Associated Press. "It's either that or cut teachers," Barrette said. "Schools are about kids. If we cut teachers we hurt the quality of education, but eliminating an administrator won't hurt kids." As it stands Dollar Bay has 19 teachers for 262 students in grades kindergarten through 12. Barrette makes roughly \$100,000 a year including benefits.

Nikes Really Can Go the Distance

ANCHORAGE, Alaska—5,500 pairs of Nike basketball shoes that fell off a cargo ship during a storm are finally starting to reach land, in Alaska. Curtis Ebbsmeyer, an Oceanographer who tracks debris through the waters, wrote an email to the Anchorage Daily News saying "Nikes will soon be in your neck of the sea," reported the Associated Press. Because the shoes have only been in the water for a few months they may still be wearable. If, that is, a match can be made. "Nike forgot to tie the laces, so you have to find mates," said Ebbsmeyer. The shoes are estimated to have moved more than 450 miles a month, up to 18 miles a day. They are predicted to drift another 1,600 miles before they all wash up on some pacific shore.

PETA Says Drink, Don't Milk!

MADISON, Wis.—Governor Jim Doyle is under pressure from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals to change Wisconsin's official beverage from milk to beer. Milk, according to PETA, is harmful to humans. They said that it can cause heart disease, cancer, allergies, diabetes and obesity, reported the Associated Press. Beer, they said, does none of these things. PETA said they want to ease the plight of milk cows which are put under great stress because they are kept constantly pregnant to force them to produce milk. The calves are also ripped away from their mothers so humans can have the milk. The beer-for-milk campaign was shut down by Mothers Against Drunk Driving but is being reintroduced by PETA.

Students Organize Against Protesters

But Protesters Say They Like It When 'Freaks' Protest Them

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area churches. As a result of the church's announcement, students have organized in support of the student production of "The Laramie Project."

Stull said cast members increased their efforts to put on the play, which opened Feb. 20 in DuPont Hall. "The Laramie Project" is a play exploring the reactions of townspeople in Laramie, Wyo. where gay college student Matthew Shepard, was beaten, tied to a fencepost and left to die.

The Westboro Baptist Church protests daily against homosexuality and often pickets at colleges and other areas performing "The Laramie Project." They also protested at Shepard's funeral and are shown doing so in the play.

Shirley Phelps-Roper is an attorney for the church who said they found out about the college's production from emails from students and city residents. She also said the church was coming to protest because the college needs it.

"You're entitled to hear the gospel at least once in your lifetime," Phelps-Roper said. "More specifically, you're going to put on that 'Laramie Project,' and you need to understand that there is a God. That play was created by homosexuals for homosexuals with a filthy agenda."

Stull said he had not heard of any student complaints about the production but an angry female patron called the theatre ticket office about two weeks ago.

Nathan Figueroa, president of People for the Rights of Individuals of Sexual Minorities (PRISM), and "The Laramie Project" cast member, said he encountered Phelps before and was shocked his church was coming to protest in Fredericksburg.

"I was aware that Phelps often goes around the country and protests 'The Laramie Project,'" Figueroa said. "The stuff that he has to say is really ugly."

Professor Stull said the Department of Theatre and Dance received a fax from Westboro Baptist Church on Feb. 15. He then notified college administrators, who discussed the protests at a Crisis Planning Committee meeting on Feb. 19.

Vice President for Advancement and College Relations Ron Singleton said occasionally people want to come to the college and present their opinions. The college has a Freedom of Expression policy, which allows protesters to come as long as they are not

disruptive to the college's academic program.

"We don't usually join sides," Singleton said. "The campus is a perfect place for the exchange of ideas. It really doesn't get involved to try to protect people from viewpoints."

Phelps-Roper said they will probably have about 10 protesters from Westboro Baptist Church. She said she was not sure if her father Fred Phelps would be attending because they have two other scheduled protests for this weekend. Police said they expect more student counter protesters from other organizations and even other schools.

PRISM is using the event as a fundraiser. For every minute Westboro Baptist Church is protesting, they are asking people to pledge a dime to Equality Virginia. Also, the student senate has passed a resolution supporting the college and "The Laramie Project."

"It's a very negative thing, but you can turn it into a positive thing," Figueroa said. "Phelps personifies homophobia to the extent that it can be positive because you can see how ugly homophobia is."

According to college officials, the protesters will be located on the corner of Brent Street and College Avenue near Double Drive from 7-8 p.m. on Saturday. The street will divide Westboro Church members from any counter protesters.

Acting Police Director James Snipes said the college plans to have at least five police officers on duty, and any violence would result in arrests. Snipes also said city police will be there as well.

"If we observe an assault that occurs, they will be arrested," Snipes said. "We hold no distinction between protesters and counterprotesters. It goes both ways."

Westboro Church member Phelps-Roper said they enjoy when people come protest them.

"We love them," Phelps-Roper said. "The dichotomy between the two groups is noticeable. They are usually disheveled, disorganized, a motley band of riffraff. I can't think of any word to use except maybe freaks. Their visage is as freakish looking as their appearance."

Theatre Professor Stull said he was too pleased by student reactions, but for different reasons.

"I think it's great," Stull said. "I think that anytime our community can stand up and say that we as a community are offended by this kind of hatred, I think that's a positive thing."

Viewpoints

your opinions

Editorial Be Prepared

Let's be realistic. The chances of a terrorist attack at the college are absurdly remote. However, that being said, the college can definitely come up with a better emergency plan than the current one, which right now is pretty much "Wait for further instructions."

This plan is obviously lacking, especially when one considers the possibility of a lack of power and phone services. Also, the College says the dorms will go into a "lock-down" state with Resident Assistants making sure the halls are safe. Yeah right, two weeks worth of training in how to bust underage drinkers and mediation will be really useful in a campus-wide crisis.

We're not saying the college should build underground bunkers and stockpile it with food for years. Like we said, this is Mary Washington College, not exactly a terrorism hotspot. However, surely administrators can create a more useful emergency plan.

Freedom For All

For once, *The Bulletin* completely agrees with the administration. Well, maybe not completely, but at least on one issue we do. The members of the Westboro Baptist Church have every right to come and share their views, and we welcome that. Of course, because we have sense, we oppose their anti-homosexual, anti-American, and anti-religion viewpoints, but we still welcome their willingness to share them.

The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution provides us with Freedom of Speech. That freedom extends to everyone, from Rev. Fred Phelps and Rush Limbaugh to Larry Flynt and Howard Stern.

Freedom of speech is one of our most precious freedoms, and it is no accident it is in the first amendment. Let no one try to silence the protesters from the Westboro Baptist Church and hope they do not try to quiet their opponents. Open dialogue is the only way to come to honest agreements and compromises.

As Voltaire wrote in the 18th century, "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

the LARAMIE protest

Apathy Implies Approval

Dear Editor:

With the Mary Washington College production of "The Laramie Project" and the imminent arrival of the self-proclaimed "tag-bashers" from Westboro Baptist Church, I urge the campus community to find ways to react to Phelps's clan proactively. Apathy silently lends approval to Phelps and reinforces hate. Speak out. Use this as an opportunity to do something positive for the community. I urge everyone to respond to this, and, most importantly, to do so in a way that is mindful and constructive.

Please don't confront Phelps directly. This only adds credibility to his view by suggesting his ranting is even worth arguing about. Also, keep in mind that Phelps's congregation is made up of lawyers, and they often make money with these protests by suing anyone who they're able to bring charges against. Don't confront the protestors directly, thereby financially fueling the spread of their hate. Don't give Phelps the audience he desperately desires. See Phelps for what he is, a hateful misinformed extremist. Leave him and his violent message un-answered.

Phelps himself is represented as a character in "The Laramie Project." However, Phelps condemns "The Laramie Project" because it shows a multiplicity of viewpoints on the murder of Matthew Shepard, and not just his own slant. Phelps does not want you to see this play or the other views expressed in it. Therefore, the most powerful way that you can protest Phelps is to support "The Laramie Project." Listen with an open mind and heart, not just to Phelps's thinking but to the whole diversity of beliefs presented.

Another way you can protest Phelps is to sign up for PRISM's fundraiser and pledge a dime to Equality Virginia for every minute that the Phelps clan protests. The fundraiser is helping to turn hate into compassion. Every minute that the

Westboro Baptist congregation spends espousing their message, they will be advancing the equality of individuals across the Commonwealth of Virginia! Once all the donations have been collected, PRISM will send Westboro Baptist Church a card thanking them for their valuable activism.

Whatever you decide, please do something to take a positive stance against Phelps's protest. Take a step toward love and acceptance. Now more than ever, we should be reminded of a town in Wyoming, not much unlike Fredericksburg, where people were forced, all at once, to face the tragic consequences of homophobia; to wrestle with their own feelings about acceptance, compassion, and faith — a community that thought tolerance was enough.

Nathan Figueroa is a junior and is the president of PRISM.

Christianity Means Love And Respect

Dear Editor:

The campus ministers here at Mary Washington wanted to clearly communicate our strong disagreement with the views and practices of the extremist group that plans to protest the performance of "The Laramie Project" this coming weekend. We believe that what is being promoted by the members of the Independent Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas, is derogatory, disrespectful, and in no way consistent with historical, orthodox Christianity.

Although members of our student organizations may differ on their views of homosexuality, we can affirm together that every person deserves to be treated with dignity and respect, especially when dealing with areas of disagreement and potential conflict. Please know that the planned protest of "The Laramie

FAST FACT:

There is no "Curse of the Bambino," according to documentary filmmaker Ken Burns. The Red Sox's World Series drought is due to "just bad pitching."

Project" is in no way endorsed by the campus ministries that have signed this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact any campus minister if you have further questions.

Rev. Susan Blanchard for The Baptist Student Union, Rev. Bob Azarito for The Campus Christian Community, Fr. Ron Escalante for The Catholic Student Association, Ken Stout for Grace Campus Ministries, and Tracy Ennis for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

Protest In Peace

Dear Editor:

I was greatly disturbed and quite aggrieved by a weblink that I received this past week. That such hatred can be aimed so harshly and unjustly just boggles my mind. That Rev. Fred Phelps preaches to his congregation like he does seems beyond sick, but now he threatens to try and force his views upon the student body, faculty, and staff of Mary Washington College. I strongly believe that each person's beliefs must be respected, but to disregard others' rights and to force your beliefs down others' throats is unacceptable. What Rev. Phelps preaches is not salvation, but hatred. His hatred is not limited to any one person or type of person though; he hates everyone.

To listen to him speak is to look into the face of one who does not uphold the rights of others. To him it is a damnable offense just to know someone who is homosexual. In the same breath that he condemns our school and the community to hell for producing "The Laramie Project," he says good riddance to those who died on Sept. 11, 2001 and on the Space Shuttle Columbia. The only logic that I have been able to find in this is that Americans support people's right to live their lives freely. Rev. Phelps made it very clear that he finds it morally contemptible for us to allow others to live their lives as they see fit.

It is my hope that most people see through what Rev. Phelps says, and abhor the hatred that he stands for. I am not advocating that homosexuality is right or wrong, but the hatred is. Nothing good ever comes out of it. When reading his flyer about our school my mind turned to some other events that people turned

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"Don't give Phelps the audience he desperately desires."
Nathan Figueroa

"Every person deserves to be treated with dignity and respect."
Campus Ministries

Letters to the Editor

We Don't Burn Our Bras, Either

Dear Editor:

As seniors at Mary Washington College, we have seen our share of inaccurate and/or exaggerated articles in *The Bulletin*. However, this is the first time we have been directly affected by misquotes, information taken out of context, and just plain lies. We are members of the swim team and are pretty disgusted with the article printed in the Feb. 6 edition of *The Bulletin*, "Swim Teams Crush Howard." It is our intent today to clear up some misconceptions of our team.

To start with, the girls do shave their armpits, bikini lines, etc. during the season. The only things we do not shave are our legs and one of these is only the month and a half before our championship meet. Secondly, the guys, contrary to the article's information, do not "shave every hair off their body." They too shave their heads, and some their heads, arms, and chests. Finally, and possibly the most disturbing part, is the blatant misquoting. It is really unfair, unprofessional, and not to mention it is illegal! We would greatly appreciate a publication of these, the true facts.

It is pretty sad that a college newspaper can't find anything other than very insignificant shaving traditions to write about two teams with records of 11-1 and 9-2 as of Feb. 7. How about the fact that we train two and a half hours every afternoon plus three mornings a week or that we trained four hours a day for 12 days over

winter break in Miami? There are plenty of interesting stories out there about our team as well as any other team. If you need suggestions about what to write on, there are plenty of people that would provide them.

Karin Riesenfeld, Jenn Graboyes, and Ashley Randlett are seniors.

Snow Woes

Dear Editor:

At 7:45 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 19, I got the last spot in the George Washington Hall lot, where my car was at an angle, parked on ice. I watched other commuters pounding on their steering wheels in anger before driving off to find another place to park. As most of the parallel parking spaces were full of snow and buried cars, this was no easy feat.

Later, walking behind George Washington Hall, ice, then snow, covered the rest of the walkway, including the stairs leading to a dorm building. There was not even a pink laminated warning sign, as is Mary Washington College's trademark of a dangerous pathway.

In addition, I, like every other student, received a mass email warning me to stay away from campus buildings, as snow is falling off roofs in dangerous amounts and we could be injured. Now, I'm not a physics major, but I am concerned that school was too dangerous to come in for, and one more day off would not have killed anyone. In fact, it would have made that less likely to happen. There should never be a time when academics prevail over safety.

Kelly Mitchell is a junior.

Bullet Letter and Editorial Policy

The Bulletin is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them. If there are numerous letters on one subject, a sampling of the best letters will be selected.

Letters should be typed, double-spaced, and submitted the Monday before publication. All letters and columns are subject to editing for length and clarity. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and columns should not exceed 700 words. *The Bulletin* reserves the right to withhold libelous material.

The Bulletin does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, disability, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, sex, age or sexual orientation.

The Bulletin will not publish anonymous letters or columns. All letters must be signed, and a phone number and address must be included to facilitate verification of authorship of the letter. Letters and columns can be mailed to *The Bulletin* at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seabrook Hall or sent to our email address at bullet@mw.edu.

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Bulletin* staff. The staff editorial represents the opinions of *The Bulletin* editorial board and not necessarily those of the college, student body or entire *Bullet* staff.

the Bulletin

www.thebulletonline.com

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The Bulletin is published on Thursday afternoons during the fall and spring semesters. All decisions are made by the editorial board, independent of the *Bullet* adviser.

Features

extras about people and places

Fast Fact:

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By **AMANDA MCGUIRE**
Staff Writer

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Kristi Harpst, the chairperson for the ball whose mom helped her make her own taffeta gown, complete with a corset and hoop skirt said.

"The period gowns add such a sense of authenticity to the whole thing," Harpst said.

"If they are re-enactors, they usually have their own, but you can also rent gowns at Fantasy Costume."

This costume store, located in nearby Falmouth, offers a wide array of gowns, and rents several costumes to ball attendees each year.

"This year we rented out gowns and we even have a union general going," said Bonnie Seay, the owner of Fantasy Costumes.

"The union costume is like a Confederate General's costume, but it has a dark blue jacket, light blue pants, and a gold sash."

To complement the wide array of costumes, the ballroom was transformed from its everyday stately look into a colorful Victorian garden.

"It's just like you're in a garden," said Harpst. "We have an archway with a bench that makes a great place for photos. Overall, the whole room is just so colorful."

But after the guests had admired each other's costumes and strolled around the verdant ballroom, it was time to start dancing. After learning the dances in the morning, the guests returned in the evening to dance to piano and fiddle music. In keeping with traditional ball customs, the ladies carried dance cards

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When she isn't busy teaching private piano and trumpet lessons in her home, Goodman participates in Civil War re-enactments and was thrilled when the Mary Washington College Historic Preservation club approached her several years ago and asked her to teach the dances for the ball.

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Peter Kelley/Bulletin

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Recent studies conducted at Tufts University and Western Oregon University at Monmouth indicate that college students eat some of the most greasy, unhealthy meals available. In many cases, students get bored with campus food and go off-campus to find alternatives.

"My eating habits are probably pretty poor here and they are definitely better at home," junior Lindsay Manning said. "Sometimes I eat before going to dinner with my friends at the dining hall because I know there won't be anything there that I want."

Other students, agreed with Manning that they do not get the satisfaction they want when they eat at Seacobeck. Chipotle, a popular fast-food burrito chain located only 10 minutes from campus and Papa John's pizza are two popular choices for off-campus meals.

And why would anyone want to switch from eating a piping hot Papa John's pizza to celery sticks and carrots? The food guide pyramid, a legend in elementary school classrooms, recommends that a person eat a balanced diet each day: two to three dairy

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According to WebMD, an online resource for health information, a study at Western Oregon University focused on how many fruits, vegetables, grains, and dairy products students ate each day. In all four categories, the 105 students surveyed did not fulfill the recommended daily values established in the food pyramid. This indicates that students eat more fatty and sweet foods.

In reality, students do not realize the extent of their unhealthy eating habits and many believe they are eating well and do not see a reason to change their eating patterns. Others realize that their eating habits could use some work, but they do not know what to do. Still, some college students recognize that they are not receiving enough nutrients and seek other methods.

"I know I'm not getting enough in the food I eat here, so I take a multivitamin everyday," junior Dave Hunsberger said.

Unfortunately, students who believe that taking a multivitamin supplement to make up for poor, irregular eating habits are sorely mistaken. Since the human body

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Peter Kelley/Bulletin

Food For Thought

— EATING, page 5

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"I'm not surprised that people don't gain that much weight when they come to school," Manning said. "Even though the food I started eating here when I was a freshman wasn't very healthy, I didn't really like the food here, so I ate less and lost a lot of weight."

Freshman Andrea Keefer said she does not mind eating school food but added, "I just wish there were more healthy choices. I eat a sub almost every single day."

Another aspect of the Tufts' study indicated that the one-third of students who become vegetarians in college in order to become healthier eaters have relatively the same amounts of saturated fat in their diets as students who still eat red meat.

Hunsberger said that he decided to eliminate red meat and explained, "There is stuff in meat that I

don't need, so I don't eat it."

Dr. Christina Economos, the leader of this study, commented in the USA Today that many students have a false sense of dietary security. This includes those who eliminate red meat from their diets, who often neglect to substitute in green vegetables and soy products, which provide essential nutrients like calcium, fiber, and iron. Since these students tend to eat more cheese and baked goods, their levels of saturated fat are comparable to people who eat red meat.

In addition to finding out the truth behind college food myths, the Tufts study indicated that 66 percent of the 1,800 students surveyed did not eat their recommended values of fruits and vegetables per day.

"I don't eat any fruits or vegetables," Manning said. "But I do know that I get plenty of grains and some protein."

On a given day at Seacobeck Hall, students can choose from a dozen fruits and a dozen vegetables to incorporate into their meal. So, if only three vegetables and three fruits appeal to the student on any given day, that would make a difference.

"I'm probably not your typical college student, but I force myself to stay healthy and I work out all the time," Keefer said.

Although dialing up the local pizza shop sounds good, if students make an effort to maintain a well-balanced diet and exercise regularly, their bodies will thank them in the future.

Premium Night

February 27th, 2003



~ Steak Apoivre ~

With Wild Mushroom Sauce, Fresh Vegetables and Linguini Noodles

~ Vegetarian Option ~

Spinach Pasta Primavera

MWC Bistro

4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Meal Plan Plus \$2.50 in Flex

A Special Wintery Dose of Thumbs Up



to the men's swimming team being the most successful team in school history.



to saving the homeless shelter and to all those who signed the petition.



to all the good samaritans who helped dig out our cars.



to having a four day weekend last week due to the blizzard.



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Freshman Andrea Keefer said she does not mind eating school food but added, "I just wish there were more healthy choices. I eat a sub almost every single day."

Another aspect of the Tufts' study indicated that the one-third of students who become vegetarians in college in order to become healthier eaters have relatively the same amounts of saturated fat in their diets as students who still eat red meat.

Hunsberger said that he decided to eliminate red meat and explained, "There is stuff in meat that I

don't need, so I don't eat it."

Dr. Christina Economos, the leader of this study, commented in the USA Today that many students have a false sense of dietary security. This includes those who eliminate red meat from their diets, who often neglect to substitute in green vegetables and soy products, which provide essential nutrients like calcium, fiber, and iron. Since these students tend to eat more cheese and baked goods, their levels of saturated fat are comparable to people who eat red meat.

In addition to finding out the truth behind college food myths, the Tufts' study indicated that 66 percent of the 1,800 students surveyed did not eat their recommended values of fruits and vegetables per day.

"I don't eat any fruits or vegetables," Manning said. "But I do know that I get plenty of grains and some protein."

On a given day at Scacbeck Hall, students can choose from a dozen fruits and a dozen vegetables to incorporate into their meal. So, if only three vegetables and three fruits made it to the student on any given day, that would make a difference.

"I'm probably not your typical college student, but I force myself to stay healthy and I work out all the time," Keefer said.

Although dialing up the local pizza shop sounds good, if students make an effort to maintain a well-balanced diet and exercise regularly, their bodies will thank them in the future.

Premium Night

February 27th, 2003



~ Steak Apovire ~

With Wild Mushroom Sauce, Fresh Vegetables and Linguini Noodles

~ Vegetarian Option ~

Spinach Pasta Primavera

MWC Bistro

4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Meal Plan Plus \$2.50 in Flex

A Special Wintery Dose of Thumbs Up



to the men's swimming team being the most successful team in school history.



to saving the homeless shelter and to all those who signed the petition.



to all the good samaritans who helped dig out our cars.



to having a four day weekend last week due to the blizzard.



Professor on Leave Due to Vein Inflammation

By DARRIELLE SMOLIAN
Staff Writer

If you were to walk into the small hallway on the second floor of Melchers Hall last semester, past room 214, you might have noticed it was unusually vacant. That's because Distinguished Professor of Art Joseph DiBella, was on medical leave last fall.

But there's good news. DiBella will be back teaching art and advising students next year.

"I'm looking forward to getting back to [teaching] in the fall," he said with confidence.

This past summer, just a few days before DiBella was supposed to leave for teaching the Studio Art course at Urbino in Italy, he endured kidney failure and was later diagnosed with Wegener's Granulomatosis. Wegener's affects approximately one in 30,000 people, according to DiBella. There is also a 90 percent mortality rate if it is not diagnosed.

DiBella first went to see his doctor about a year of feeling fatigued, experiencing joint aches and suffering from problems with his vision. These are all symptoms of Wegener's, which is an inflammation of the veins. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease's website says that this inflammation damages important organs of the body by limiting

blood flow to those organs and destroying normal tissue."

Furthermore, according to the NIAID, the disease can involve any organ system, although it mainly affects the respiratory tract and the kidneys. Wegener's could affect people at any age and there is no known cause for it.

After blood work was done in Richmond, DiBella was confirmed to have Wegener's. He then underwent chemotherapy and is currently taking medicine to prevent any relapses, since there is no cure for this disease. His condition has to be monitored for the rest of his life, since flare-ups are common.

Although DiBella was originally planning on taking the 2002-2003 academic year off to pursue his art projects, the unexpected change in leave status from 'sabbatical' to 'medical leave' was sudden. DiBella credits colleague and Associate Professor of Art, Marjorie Och, as being "instrumental on getting [my] medical leave approved," he said.

Senior Matt Lemieux took several art classes at Mary Washington College with DiBella and joined the Urbino Italy program specifically to learn from him. Lemieux was stunned to hear the news, but he is hopeful about the future.

"If I come back to finish my art degree, I'd love to have him as a teacher again," he said.

In addition to teaching art, DiBella was also an adviser to several students, such as senior Studio Art major, Amanda Tillman, who was affected by DiBella's absence.

"I missed having him as my advisor," she said. "[He was] a friendly face to see around, always asking about people's work," Tillman added.

DiBella's medical leave is over, however, and he is currently continuing on the remainder of his sabbatical. He is taking this time to regain strength and work on personal art projects, although he misses the interaction he typically has with his students and misses seeing their progress. He plans to teach art courses in Italy again this summer.

DiBella is in his office occasionally, but you would most likely find him in an art studio where he goes on a daily basis to work on a series of paintings for his upcoming exhibit in New York. The medical leave was additionally upsetting for DiBella because he had planned to take the year off to prepare for this show. It was very difficult to do any work while sick.

Tillman knew that DiBella was looking forward to pursuing his own projects when he left.

"I'm more sad that he couldn't work on his own work," she said.



Photo Courtesy of www.mwc.edu

Professor Joseph DiBella.

DiBella still feels tired frequently, but is not suffering from any pains. Overall, he said he feels better. He is thankful to the students who sent him e-mails and cards, as well as to his colleagues who have covered his advising, updated him on everything in the department, and who have been generally very encouraging.

"I'm very grateful I'm doing much better and the for the support I've had from my colleagues and students," DiBella said with a small grin.

Students Preserve Past Through Dance

▲ BALL, page 4

club, this is one of the Historic Preservation Club's yearly fundraisers. Yet it is also an event that helps to unite community members and Mary Washington College students alike who enjoy Civil War re-enactments and who want to have a little fun with an historically authentic flair.

This year, the ball had the most attendants it has ever had. "It's been around for a few years and it's publicized, so people are really starting to take notice," Harpst said.

Sophomore Phil Hooper certainly took notice of this gala event last year when he first attended it as a freshman. He was asked to serve as this year's Master of Ceremonies.

"The reason this is so cool is that it is definitely one of the most unique experiences you can have at MWC," he said.

Since dancing all night can certainly be exhausting, a round of "parlor games," led by Hooper, helped give the dancers some time to catch their breaths.

"They're very tame games, kind of like ice-breakers or something you would play in grade school," said Hooper.

In typical 19th century fashion, the guests participate in games like Blind Man's Bluff and several word games, all of which allow them to socialize and get acquainted with one another. After this, the guests go back to dancing until the final event of the night, a toast to an evening of waltzes, swishing gowns, and socializing.

"I have been to lots of balls," said Goodman. "They've been held in fields, barns, and firehouses, but none of them as authentic as this one that the students hold. It's truly a step back in time."



Peter Kelley/Bulletin

James Baxter Berryhill Jr. and Nina Deboeck.

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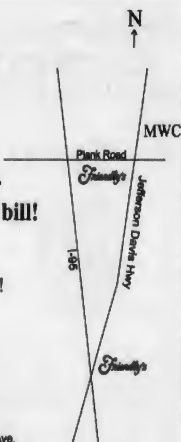
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Fly Like an Eagle.
Student Government Association

Up & Coming SGA
Events

A Candle Light Vigil Against
Hatred

Saturday, March 1st
DuPont Hall Entrance
7-8 PM

Powder Puff Football
March 22nd, 10am-5pm
Sign up in your residence hall or the Tan
Lounge!
sponsored by ARH

Voter Info Night
Thursday, Feb 27th
Great Hall - Free pizza, enter to win a
DVD player

SGA Elections
March 6th, Woodard Campus Center

Before last weekend, the only
thing he'd ever burned was a CD.

Although the fighters do everything they can to prevent
burns, more than 2.5 million burn injuries occur in
North America each year. Most could be prevented.
To learn more about our "Don't Get Burned"
campaign, please visit www.IAH-HotLineFund.org

The message is broad! It's not by the National Association
of Fire Fighters. Harold A. Schaeffer, General President

FIRE
BURN
DON'T

Sports

the latest athletic news and information

Fast Fact:

A female ferret will die if it goes into heat and cannot find a mate.

schedule

Men's Basketball

Feb. 25: vs. Goucher College

Women's Basketball

Feb. 27: at Marymount Univ.

Track & Field

March 1: at Virginia Tech Invite

Baseball

March 2: vs. Virginia Wesleyan

Softball

March 1: vs. Randolph Macon

Men's Lacrosse

March 1: vs. Cabrini College

Women's Lacrosse

March 1: at Sweet Briar College

scores

Men's Basketball

Feb. 25: St. Mary's College
W 82-69

Women's Basketball

Feb. 25: York College
W 64-56

Men's Lacrosse

Feb. 22: Virginia Wesleyan
L 12-5

athlete of the week

Dan Dupras Basketball

Senior led the team with 24 points and 10 rebounds in the victory over St. Mary's.

First Round: Success

Men's Basketball Defeats St. Mary's, 82-69

By CORY TEMPLEMAN
Assistant Sports Editor

If you happened to catch the Mary Washington College men's basketball team during warm-ups before Tuesday night's contest with St. Mary's College of Maryland, you would have seen that they made just about every three-pointer they shot.

It was a sign of things to come.

The Eagles made eight of 12 three-pointers in the second half, including four in the span of three minutes, propelling them to an 82-69 win over St. Mary's in first round action of the Capital Athletic Conference tournament.

"We were really knocking down shots there in the second half and it's difficult to beat us when we start making three's because we have so many good shooters on the floor at once," head coach Rod Wood said.

With 18:11 remaining in the second half, senior forward Dan Dupras nailed a three from the wing giving Mary Washington a 49-33 advantage.

Three minutes later, the Eagles hit three three-pointers in a row, including back-to-back long-range bombs from senior guard Brett Lively.

"We couldn't miss it seemed like during that stretch in the second half," said Dupras, who scored a season high 24 points. "We just got in a good flow on transition and we were executing our plays and we just hit the shots. I thought we were gonna break some sort of record if we kept it up."

The shooting display in the second half was a stark contrast to the first half where the Eagles shot only 27 percent from behind the arc.

"It was really a matter of hitting shots. We were executing the plays and the shots weren't falling for us in the first half. In the second half we just hit the open looks," Wood said.

Dupras, who was three of eight from the land of three, also played well in the paint despite being matched up against 6'10" St. Mary's center Jonathan Neely.

The 6'6" Dupras used his quickness and shooting range to exploit Neely's height and connect on many wide-open looks from outside.

"I knew that I was quicker than him and I could extend my game a little bit because of that. Plus I'd seen him two other times this year and knew that was a vulnerable spot for him," Dupras said. "I just let it all out

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Above: The Mary Washington College men's basketball team huddles together and claims victory over the opponents, St. Mary's. Left: Seniors on the squad, such as Brett Lively, have been recognized for their outstanding seasons.

Photos Courtesy of Katy Valhuzzo

Hockey Club Breaks The Ice

By LESLEY JOHNSON
Staff Writer

on the losing end, 14-0.

"We came out flat," wing player Joe Montague said. "No one showed up to play. It is a new team every game which is really bad. We never know where each other are on the ice."

Six seconds into the hockey game, Jason Scarberry of the University of Richmond scored on Mary Washington College's goalie freshman Dave Dalton.

"You couldn't print what was going on in my head at that time," Dalton said.

On Feb. 14, MWC's ice hockey club played in their fourth game and came out

With 7:13 left in the second half, interference was called on Scott Celander of University of Richmond, allowing MWC to take advantage of a power play.

Unfortunately, University of Richmond's aggressive defense was on call making it difficult for MWC to get within reach of the goal.

"We need to emphasize teamwork, communication, and defense; only stuff that will come with time," Dalton said. "Give us a season or two and we'll be good."

The ice hockey club has played a total of four games all ending in losses since they began practicing in November 2002.

"There was never a problem setting up the club, but the problem that I have always had is getting people to commit to the club and show up for practice and work hard," said sophomore Mike Housman, president

of the Ice Hockey Club.

Housman set up the ice hockey club this year and successfully received funding from the school which has so far completely covered the costs of practices, games and jerseys.

The Fredericksburg Ice Park provides ice time for the team every Wednesday night from 10:45 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

The ice time costs \$225 per hour. This year the members of the club do not have to pay dues but next year the club dues will be up to \$600.

The dues will go to cover membership to the American Collegiate Hockey Association, which is \$700 dollars, the local league, a \$1200 fee, and ice time.

Right now the club is a member of neither organization, but is just setting up games with other schools when they have the time.

So far they have played two games against University of Richmond and two games against Appalachian State University.

The club has not set up anymore games as of yet due to the fact that all the other teams that are in the leagues are in play-offs right now.

"When we set up the next game, we hope that by getting the word out, the fans will pack every game like they did on Feb. 14," Housman said. "We also have

a contest at half time to try to get the fans involved as well; kind of like you see at pro hockey games."

At half time, three fans volunteer to make their way down to center ice. Each fan is given the opportunity to shoot the puck from center ice towards an open goal.

Fortunately, for the fans of the February 14, 2003 game, even though they did not make the goal, they were each given a free 21 oz. Fountain drink or 16 oz. Slurpee courtesy of 7-11.

"We would like to thank the fans for coming out and supporting us," sophomore Steven Parker said. "We have a long way to go and it's going to take work to get used to playing at the college level, but we really appreciate everyone's support."

Steven Parker

"We have a long way to go and it's going to take work to get used to playing at the college level, but we really appreciate everyone's support."

"We are still finding more and more people at the school that play. We would like people who have played ice hockey before to come out and play," Housman said. It is full contact, so if you are not that good of a skater, you can get hurt."

The club welcomes those interested in playing to contact Housman at mhous2cy@mw.edu.



Peter Kelley/Bullet

Ice Hockey club goalie Dave Dalton.



aPhoto Courtesy of Katherine Keller

Members of the dance team pose during basketball season.

Dancers Anonymous

By LIZ KELLER
Assistant Sports Editor

"And now, for your half-time entertainment, please welcome the MWC Dance team!" Sports Information Director Clint Offens says into the microphone in front of a packed Goodrick Gymnasium.

"Dance team? We have a dance team?" someone in the crowd says.

"Yeah, who are they?" someone else says.

What many people also don't realize is that for at least six hours a week the team practices a routine that will take them two, sometimes three minutes to perform.

The group consists of about 15-20 members and is entirely self-run, led by three captains, seniors Kristin Farrell and Katherine Keller and junior Amanda Shively. The captains are elected by team members and individuals must try out for the team each semester even if they have been selected as a member in the past.

Farrell, who has been on the team for four years, has been a captain for the past three.

"I like that we are student-run and there's not a coach," she said. "We do our own choreography, so it's our team and we get to focus on what we care about."

The team mostly dances during halftime at home basketball games, but has also danced at the homecoming soccer game. The group works to choreograph five original routines to perform each year.

"Basketball season is crunch time for us and we've been adding an extra day of practice when we need it this year," Keller said. "Some dances are choreographed by the three of us [captains], but most of the time it is a collaborative group effort."

Ideas for their dance routines come from many different places, ranging from music videos to national dance team competitions.

"We have members who have been cheerleaders, gymnasts, some have had studio experience, and others were on their high school dance teams," Keller

said, a member of the team for four years. "The variety we have creates very diverse styles for us to choose from."

The many different influences have allowed the team to perform an assortment of dances. Recent dances have included kick lines, poms, dances using Spanish-themed music and with hip-hop music.

However, for many members, the best part about being on the team is being a part of a student-run club.

"Even though we don't have a coach, we're still really organized," sophomore Erica Frisbie said. "It's a testament to how much we all really want to be here and we keep raising the level of technique on our team."

Senior Becci King, a member for four years, agreed.

"I really like the fact that we're self-funded because it means we have a dedicated team," she said.

Since the team is not a member of the Inter-Collegiate Association, they receive no financial support from the school like other clubs. Instead, the team raises all of its own money to pay for uniforms, jackets, and music equipment.

Members pay dues once a year, but other fundraising efforts have included running balls for the men's soccer team, participating in the Homecoming Parade, in which they have won \$50 the past two years, and getting parent donations.

The team may work hard preparing routines and raising money, but they play hard as well.

"As a team we've gone clubbing, had sleepovers, played laser tag and have made trips to Carl's," Farrell said. "We make a point to get together outside of practice."

Junior Erin Fish also likes that the team always has fun, whether it is during practice or outside of practice.

"I love being part of a great group of girls," she said. "We joke around, but we also get a lot of work done."

Once basketball season ends, the group usually stops having regular practices, but in the spring they hope to compete at Kings Dominion.

Women's Basketball Captures Win Over York In CAC Tournament

By MARK TUBEN
Staff Writer

During a stretch of three games in four days, the Mary Washington College women's basketball team was not able to earn a victory until the third game. Their timing could not have been any better.

On Tuesday, Feb. 25, the sixth-seeded Mary Washington College women's basketball team started the Colonial Athletic Conference tournament in a big way by traveling to York, Pa. where they upset the third-seeded York College Spartans, 64-56.

"We had lost to them twice this season," senior Caitlin Wilkinson said. "We knew that if we gonna win we'd have to pull together as a team and work our butts off."

The Eagles did not back down from the challenge, and for their effort they were able to avenge those two losses by pulling the plug on the Spartans season. Wilkinson led the Eagles with 17 points, while juniors Katie Anderson and Adrienne Barnes along with sophomore Laura Hanks added 10 each.

The Spartans played like the favorites early on, jumping to a 7-2 lead, but the MWC women quickly responded and led often in a see-saw first half that featured five ties and ended with a three from York's Michelle Reynolds, which gave the home team a 33-30 halftime advantage.

Head coach Becky Timmins switched up her lineup to start the second half, and the move paid off. The Eagles had been competitive in the first half, but in the second frame they were dominant.

After the Spartans opened the scoring, the Eagles went on an eight-point run to give themselves a lead they would never relinquish.

During the second half the Eagles shot well, hitting 45 percent from the field. That number was made even more significant when strong defense held the Spartans to a poor 27 percent second half shooting performance.

"The entire season we have been trying to play a full 40 minutes, but up until [Tuesday] night, I don't think we did," Timmins said, who was pleased with her team's improvement. "This team has come a long way over the last five months. We've matured a lot. We're peaking at the right time, and we're playing well together at the right time."

The success on Tuesday represented a complete about-face for the team, which had finished the regular season with consecutive losses to Salisbury University and St. Mary's College.

If the Eagles are to have any more success in the tournament, they will have to continue to do it in the underdog role.

They are a combined 0-6 against the three remaining teams, and they will be playing the conference's second-ranked Marymount University in the second round of the tournament.

The win at York did more for the team than put them through to the second round. It is a big positive after a difficult regular season.

"It was an important win," Timmins said. "It showed this team that it could play well."

Basketball Team Moves On, Will Play Thursday

▲ MEN, page 8

tonight."

Also in double figures for MWC were junior Evan Fowler with 19, senior Cris Hairston with 13, and junior Erik Rodriguez with 12.

"Right now we just want to score more points than the other team was we go through the tournament. I don't care how we do it," Wood said. "Both the games this year against Goucher were battles and if we shoot the ball well and get a well officiated game we can come out on top. We've never been to a CAC championship game, so we have a lot on the line."

Neely led all scorers with 28 points.

Up next for the Eagles is Goucher College, who beat Salisbury University 82-67 on Tuesday night. Game time is slated for 7:30 p.m. on Thursday at Goodrick Gymnasium.

This bracelet was a gift Amber Apodaca received from the center where she helped teens with drug and alcohol problems. She was wearing it when an underage drunk driver took her life.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.



Rants on Refs

COMMENTARY By CORY TEMPLEMAN
Assistant Sports Editor

I'll give you one guess as to what made Mary Washington College men's basketball head coach Rod Wood fall lifelessly on his back as if he was just shot at the end of the Catholic game.

Well, I'm not a betting man, but I would wager any sports knowledge that I have that it was probably the shiest officiating.

That's right, the same officiating crew that

hung its heads as MWC students booed them off the court. They hung their heads because they probably knew they did not call a good game.

No, make that a consistent game.

I am the last person to blame officiating on the outcome of a game. After all, winning and losing is in the

player's hands. But, as I watched players from both sides battle for rebounds in the paint that night, it looked like a cage match one would see in the Royal Rumble instead of a basketball game. Bodies falling, arms flailing, you name it. The only thing that was missing were some folding chairs and a cameo from WWE chairman Vince McMahon. However, the refs weren't calling the fouls underneath.

Ok, that's fine, if it's going to be a physical game then the refs should let them play like that the whole game. But when MWC point guard Evan Fowler gets called for little contact on the wrist the next possession, that's when

the inconsistency of the officiating reared its ugly head that night. If the tempo of the game is rough and physical, then the game should be called as such and the players should be allowed a little contact when playing defense.

But when nit-picky hand checks are called fouls and flying elbows underneath aren't, well that's just unfair.

On one possession, Catholic forward Matt Hillcary grabbed a rebound only because he gave a forearm shiver to a nearby MWC forward. Then as Catholic brought the ball up the court, Fowler

gets whistled for a hand check when all he was doing was playing tight defense. I'm pretty sure a fly would not have felt that little slap on the wrist, but nevertheless, it was called a foul.

I'm not biased because I am a MWC student. I'm being critical because I am a basketball fan and what happened that

night should not happen at the college level. The officials took the game out of the player's hands, plain and simple.

When MWC forward Dan Dupras tried to have a civil conversation with one of the officials about what he thought was a questionable call, the ref refused to listen and walked away from Dupras.

Perhaps an admission of guilt on the official's part? I don't know and I'm not the type of fan to defame officials because they do have a very hard job, but keep the game consistent and keep it fair for both sides. Players dictate the outcome of the game, not the officials. Let's keep it that way.

"I'm not biased because I am a MWC student. The officials took the game out of the player's hands, plain and simple."

Eagles Drown Competition, Set Records At CAC Championships

By TOM BORAK
Staff Writer

Mary Washington College lapped the competition at the annual Capital Athletic Conference Swimming Championships held in Goodrick Natatorium the weekend of Feb. 14.

While 16 teams consisting of men and women from eight schools were allowed to compete in the contest, only two teams showed up.

Both MWC's men's and women's teams destroyed the would-be competition in humiliating fashion.

The women's team took the title for the 13th straight year while the men's team won for the third straight year, and ninth time overall. Catholic University cleaned up the scraps, taking second place for both men's and women's competition.

"We tripled the second place team's score," said junior Scott Baker, a member of the CAC record setting 200-yard medley relay team. "We don't really have a rival anymore."

Both teams can stake a claim to the latter statement.

The women's team, with an overall score of 642, doubled up on Catholic's score of 321, while the men compiled an astounding 724 points.

It would have taken the combined scores of the second, third, and fourth place teams to edge MWC for the CAC title. The Eagles had at least one swimmer finish in the top three for every event.

The Eagles broke six CAC championships records over the course of two days.

Junior Justin Snyder was in the spotlight for most of the meet.

Snyder was named CAC Men's Swimmer of the Year, capturing an automatic bid to the NCAA championships in Atlanta, Ga. for his time of 49.71 in the men's 100-butterfly, breaking his own

CAC record.

In addition, Snyder won the 50-freestyle and was a member of three winning relay teams, two of which also broke CAC records.

Freshman Brian Craddock was named CAC rookie of the year and set a record with his performance in the 500-freestyle (4:41.34). He also won the 200-freestyle, 1650-freestyle and was a member of the winning 800-freestyle relay team.

The record setting relay teams included the women's 200-yard medley relay, which is made up of seniors Meghan Newcomer, Karin Riesenfeld, Lisa-Marie Carlson and sophomore Susie Duke.

The men's 200-yard medley relay consisted of Snyder, Baker, sophomore James Thomas and freshman Bryan Stiffler.

Record setters in the men's 800-yard freestyle Relay included Snyder, Baker, sophomore Matt

McLaren and Craddock. The teams are now waiting to find out if they have been invited to swim in the NCAA championships.

For each event, there are two set times for swimmers to beat.

A "B-cut" is a potential qualifying time, but does not guarantee a spot in the national spotlight. To ensure a trip to the NCAA's, a swimmer must beat the time

designated for an "A-cut."

For example, in this year's men's 100-butterfly event, a B-cut time is 51.89 seconds or better and an A-cut time is 50.29 seconds or better. The times change from year to year based on the strength of an event throughout the country.

Snyder's time of 49.71 was fast enough to make the A-cut and earn an automatic bid to the NCAA's.

Men and women's swimming coach Matthew Kinney explained how the remaining slots are decided.



Photo Courtesy of Lydia Haas

Members of the 200-yard medley relay (from left) junior Justin Snyder, sophomore James Thomas, freshman Bryan Stiffler and junior Scott Baker.

"Roughly 220 swimmers from around the country are selected in all of the events to participate in the NCAA's. For example, in the 100-fly event, they may invite 20 swimmers to Nationals."

Thirty-five swimmers may make the B-cut, but once the rankings are done, the cut-off line is drawn at the 20th swimmer."

Thomas summed up the situation.

"All we can do now is wait," he said.

One award that the Eagles did not bring home this year is the Coach of the Year award. This, however, is not a controversial issue for most of the swimmers.

"I feel that even though the Mary Washington

swimmers dominated in the pool, there are other coaches in the conference who deserved the award as well," Stiffler said.

Kinney agreed.

"I've won the award seven times in 10 years. I really do support the recognition that the Marymount coach received. We're used to having a great meet every year. That's all of the recognition I need," he said.

"He knows what we think of him, he's a great coach and he's done a lot for this school," sophomore Katie Wamsley concluded.

Swimmers take place in Atlanta. 100-yard butterfly 1:15.15 and the swimmer won Baker's 49.71 for the race.



The Weekly Wassup

What to do... Where to go?!



THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
"Laramie Project" Klein Theatre 8:00 p.m. \$8 general public, \$6 students/ seniors, \$2 MWC ID	Meditation Workshop Leidecker Center for Asian Studies Trinkle B39 4:00 p.m.	Daybreak 2:00-5:00 p.m. Meets at Christ Lutheran Church	SPCA work 10:30 AM Monroe Circle	Dining Committee Meeting 4 PM Faculty Staff Dining Room	5 Alive Baptist Student Union 5 PM	
Iraq discussion with Dr. Ryan Monroe 104 7 p.m.	"Laramie Project" Klein Theatre 8:00 p.m. \$8 general public, \$6 students/ seniors, \$2 MWC ID	"Laramie Project" Klein Theatre 8:00 p.m. \$8 general public, \$6 students/ seniors, \$2 MWC ID	"Laramie Project" Klein Theatre 2:00 p.m. \$8 general public, \$6 students/ seniors, \$2 MWC ID	Black Student Association 5 PM Meeting Room #4	Speaker Annie Wang 7 PM Lee Ball Room	
"Underepresented Mathematicians" with Dr. Ryan Sumner 8:00-9:15 a.m. Trinkle 138	Christian Unity Coffee House Great Hall 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.	Women in Preservation 8:00 to 5:00 p.m.	Women with a Voice: Bush's Proposal on Sex Education Ball Hall Kitchen 10 PM	Performance by Lindsey Smith 8-10 PM Underground	Resume Writing 4-5 PM sign up x 1022	
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By CONOR REILLY

Staff Writer

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▼ see SEACOBECK, page 16

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By LINDSAY BEATON

Assistant News Editor

"There are no snow shovels in Fredericksburg," said senior Sarah Preston, who added that it was very difficult to dig her car out of the snow bank it was in without one.

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"He just did not want to mess with the roads, so he cancelled class," he said. "It is a once-a-week class, too."

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Eagles Drown Competition, Set Records At CAC Championships

By TOM BORAK
Staff Writer

Mary Washington College lapped the competition at the annual Capital Athletic Conference Swimming Championships held in Goodrick Natatorium the weekend of Feb. 14.

While 16 teams consisting of men and women from eight schools were allowed to compete in the contest, only two teams showed up.

Both MWC's men's and women's teams destroyed the would-be competition in humiliating fashion.

The women's team took the title for the 13th straight year while the men's team won for the third straight year, and ninth time overall. Catholic University cleaned up the scraps, taking second place for both men's and women's competition.

"We tripled the second place team's score," said junior Scott Baker, a member of the CAC record setting 200-yard medley relay team. "We don't really have a rival anymore."

Both teams can stake a claim to the latter statement.

The women's team, with an overall score of 642, doubled up on Catholic's score of 321, while the men compiled an astounding 724 points.

It would have taken the combined scores of the second, third, and fourth place teams to edge MWC for the CAC title. The Eagles had at least one swimmer finish in the top three for every event.

The Eagles broke six CAC championship records over the course of two days.

Junior Justin Snyder was in the spotlight for most of the meet.

Snyder was named CAC Men's Swimmer of the Year, capturing an automatic bid to the NCAA championships in Atlanta, Ga. for his time of 49.71 in the men's 100-butterfly, breaking his own

CAC record.

In addition, Snyder won the 50-freestyle and was a member of three winning relay teams, two of which also broke CAC records.

Freshman Brian Craddock was named CAC rookie of the year and set a record with his performance in the 500-freestyle (4:41.34). He also won the 200-freestyle, 1650-freestyle and was a member of the winning 800-freestyle relay team.

The record setting relay teams included the women's 200-yard medley relay, which is made up of seniors Meghan Newcomer, Karin Riesenfeld, Lisa-Marie Carlson and sophomore Susie Duke.

The men's 200-yard medley relay consisted of Snyder, Baker, sophomore James Thomas and freshman Bryan Stiffler.

Record setters in the men's 800-yard freestyle Relay included Snyder, Baker, sophomore Matt

McLaren and Craddock. The teams are now waiting to find out if they have been invited to swim in the NCAA championships.

For each event, there are two set times for swimmers to beat.

A "B-cut" is a potential qualifying time, but does not guarantee a spot in the national spotlight. To ensure a trip to the NCAA's, a swimmer must beat the time designated for an "A-cut."

For example, in this year's men's 100-butterfly event, a B-cut time is 51.89 seconds or better and an A-cut time is 50.29 seconds or better. The times change from year to year based on the strength of an event throughout the country.

Snyder's time of 49.71 was fast enough to make the A-cut and earn an automatic bid to the NCAA's.

Men and women's swimming coach Matthew Kinney explained how the remaining slots are decided.



Photo Courtesy of Lydia Haas

Members of the 200-yard medley relay (from left) junior Justin Snyder, sophomore James Thomas, freshman Bryan Stiffler and junior Scott Baker.

"Roughly 220 swimmers from around the country are selected in all of the events to participate in the NCAA's. For example, in the 100-fly event, they may invite 20 swimmers to Nationals."

Thirty-five swimmers may make the B-cut, but once the rankings are done, the cut-off line is drawn at the 20th swimmer."

Thomas summed up the situation.

"All we can do now is wait," he said.

One award that the Eagles did not bring home this year is the Coach of the Year award. This, however, is not a controversial issue for most of the swimmers.

"I feel that even though the Mary Washington

swimmers dominated in the pool, there are other coaches in the conference who deserved the award as well," Stiffler said.

Kinney agreed.

"I've won the award seven times in 10 years. I really do support the recognition that the Marymount coach received. We're used to having a great meet every year. That's all of the recognition I need," he said.

"He knows what we think of him, he's a great coach and he's done a lot for this school," sophomore Katie Wamsley concluded.

Nationals take place in Atlanta, Ga. from March 13-15 for the women and March 20-22 for the men.



The Weekly Wassup

What to do... Where to go?!



THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
"Laramie Project" Klein Theatre 8:00 p.m. \$8 general public, \$6 students/ seniors, \$2 MWC ID	Meditation Workshop Leidecker Center for Asian Studies Trinkle B39 4:00 p.m.	Daybreak 2:00-5:00 p.m. Meets at Christ Lutheran Church	SPCA work 10:30 AM Monroe Circle	Dining Committee Meeting 4 PM Faculty Staff Dining Room	5 Alive Baptist Student Union 5 PM	
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Scene

your guide to entertainment

FAST FACT:

The first toilet ever seen on television was on "Leave It To Beaver."

coming attractions

▼ Thursday, Feb. 27:

"Partners of the Heart," a documentary facilitated by James Mirabello; a Black History Month event. Combs Hall room 139, 7 p.m. Free.

▼ Friday, Feb. 28:

United States Army Field Band and Soldiers' Chorus, sponsored by Mary Washington College and the Free Lance-Star. Dodd Auditorium in George Washington Hall, 7:30 p.m. Free, tickets required.

▼ Tuesday, Mar. 4:

Lecture by Annie Wang, a Cultural Awareness Series event. Lee Hall Ballroom, 7 p.m. Free.

top ten movies

1. Daredevil
2. Old School
3. How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days
4. The Jungle Book 2
5. Chicago
6. The Life of David Gale
7. Shanghai Knights
8. Gods and Generals
9. Dark Blue
10. The Recruit

Opening This Weekend: "Cradle 2 the Grave" with Jet Li and DMX. "Spider" with Ralph Fiennes and Gabriel Byrne.

source: www.imdb.com

Quote of the Week

"You know it's too early. It makes the customers all crazy-like."

-Gina,

"Empire Records"

'This Could Happen Anywhere'

The Laramie Project Comes to Mary Washington

By MARY SCHMOTZER
Staff Writer

In October 1998, 21-year-old Matthew Shepard was savagely beaten, tied to a fence and left to die in Laramie, Wyo. because he was gay.

Over the next two years, a group of eleven actors conducted interviews in Laramie and researched all aspects of the hate crime. The result became "The Laramie Project," a play by Moises Kaufman and the Members of Tectonic Theatre Project.

Beginning on Feb. 20, Mary Washington College's Department of Theatre and Dance will present the play directed by Gregg Stull, associate professor and chair of the department.

"It speaks to an important moment in the history of our country, and it should be a catalyst for an important conversation on campus," Stull said.

The 66 voices of Laramie are brought to life by the eleven actors alone on stage with chairs and five TV monitors. The format is presentational, called a series of moments in time, by Stull. The events are honestly and openly told, including graphic descriptions of the violence. Stull has put warnings on the show because of offensive language and the graphicness, but "we don't want people not to come," he said.

The content of the show has caused much controversy, as well as many mixed emotions.

"I broke down and cried three times the first time I read it," said sophomore Phil Seidman, one of the actors. "We are all drained when we leave [rehearsal]."

Because all sides of the story are covered, even the words of the killers are used.

"Sometimes it's hard to accept that real people would say this," said junior Mike Plummer.



Photo Courtesy Office Relations

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Phil Seidman

the play, but they surround the controversy of the play and protest its productions. The leader of these protests, Fred Phelps of the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kan., has conducted more than 22,000 picketing demonstrations, including protesting at Matthew Shepard's funeral. His website includes the following statement: "The Laramie Project" is a tacky bit of cheap melodrama of negligible artistic value—designed to make a hero of Matt Shepard and use him as a poster boy recruiting America's youths to lives of sin, shame, disease and Hell. Even as Shepard's life was."

The actors found that it was extremely difficult to portray a hateful person.

"You have to find a reason to connect with the character and like them," said sophomore Kat Mcmin. "I've found a new way to look at acting."

"You realize the degree to which some people hate," said Seidman.

Not only are hateful people portrayed in

Phelps will protest the second weekend of the show on campus. Margaret Mock, director of News and Information Services, said that there have been many peaceful demonstrations over the years, and nothing will be done unless there's a problem, in which the police would become involved.

"Free speech embraces his ideas, but he is motivated by hate and it will be difficult to hear him speak and to see him protest," said Stull.

According to Stull, there had been only one other complaint voiced so far. Someone called the box office and voiced their displeasure over the show.

"It is absolutely possible people will react negatively. I only hope people with misgivings at the title take time to see the play," said Stull.

Besides tackling the subject of a hate crime, the actors also each have to become a number of different characters throughout the show, switching roles within minutes of each other.

"Gregg said, 'Be true to these characters,'" said senior Ryane Studivant.

The actors have been through a lot of emotional ups and downs doing this show.

At left: Joe Hammock and sophomore Liz Beebe
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Photos Courtesy College Relations



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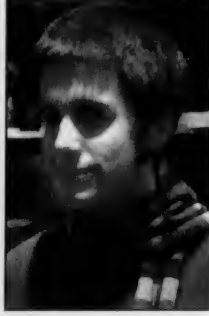
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Scene

your guide to entertainment

FAST FACT:

The first toilet ever seen on television was on "Leave It To Beaver."

coming attractions

▼ Thursday, Feb. 27:

"Partners of the Heart," a documentary facilitated by James Mirabello; a Black History Month event. Combs Hall room 139, 7 p.m. Free.

▼ Friday, Feb. 28:

United States Army Field Band and Soldiers' Chorus, sponsored by Mary Washington College and the Free Lance-Star. Dodd Auditorium in George Washington Hall, 7:30 p.m. Free, tickets required.

▼ Tuesday, Mar. 4:

Lecture by Annie Wang, a Cultural Awareness Series event. Lee Hall Ballroom, 7 p.m. Free.

top ten movies

1. Daredevil
2. Old School
3. How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days
4. The Jungle Book 2
5. Chicago
6. The Life of David Gale
7. Shanghai Knights
8. Gods and Generals
9. Dark Blue
10. The Recruit

Opening This Weekend:
"Cradle 2 the Grave" with Jet Li and DMX, "Spider" with Ralph Fiennes and Gabriel Byrne.

source: www.imdb.com

Quote of the Week

"You know it's too early. It makes the customers all crazy-like."

-Gina,

"Empire Records"

'This Could Happen Anywhere'

The Laramie Project Comes to Mary Washington

By MARY SCHMOTZER
Staff Writer

In October 1998, 21-year-old Matthew Shepard was savagely beaten, tied to a fence and left to die in Laramie, Wyo. because he was gay.

Over the next two years, a group of eleven actors conducted interviews in Laramie and researched all aspects of the hate crime. The result became "The Laramie Project," a play by Moises Kaufman and the Members of Tectonic Theatre Project.

Beginning on Feb. 20, Mary Washington College's Department of Theatre and Dance will present the play directed by Gregg Stull, associate professor and chair of the department.

"It speaks to an important moment in the history of our country, and it should be a catalyst for an important conversation on campus," Stull said.

The 66 voices of Laramie are brought to life by the eleven actors alone on stage with chairs and five TV monitors. The format is presentational, called a series of moments in time, by Stull. The events are honestly and openly told, including graphic descriptions of the violence. Stull has put warnings on the show because of offensive language and the graphicness, but "we don't want people not to come," he said.

The content of the show has caused much controversy, as well as many mixed emotions.

"I broke down and cried three times the first time I read it," said sophomore Phil Seidman, one of the actors. "We are all drained when we leave [rehearsal]."

Because all sides of the story are covered, even the words of the killers are used.

"Sometimes it's hard to accept that real people would say this," said junior Mike Plummer.



Photo Courtesy Office Relations

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the play, but they surround the controversy of the play and protest its productions. The leader of these protests, Fred Phelps of the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kan., has conducted more than 22,000 picketing demonstrations, including protesting at Matthew Shepard's funeral. His website includes the following statement: "The Laramie Project" is a tacky bit of cheap melodrama of negligible artistic value designed to make a hero of Matt Shepard and use him as a poster boy recruiting America's youths to lives of sin, shame, disease and Hell. Even as Shepard's life was."

The actors found that it was extremely difficult to portray a hateful person.

"You have to find a reason to connect with the character and like them," said sophomore Kat Mernin. "I've found a new way to look at acting."

"You realize the degree to which some people hate," said Seidman.

Not only are hateful people portrayed in

Phelps will protest the second weekend of the show on campus. Margaret Mock, director of News and Information Services, said that there have been many peaceful demonstrations over the years, and nothing will be done unless there's a problem, in which the police would become involved.

"Free speech embraces his ideas, but he is motivated by hate and it will be difficult to hear him speak and to see him protest," said Stull.

According to Stull, there had been only one other complaint voiced so far. Someone called the box office and voiced their displeasure over the show.

"It is absolutely possible people will react negatively. I only hope people with misgivings at the title take time to see the play," said Stull.

Besides tackling the subject of a hate crime, the actors also each have to become a number of different characters throughout the show, switching roles within minutes of each other.

"Gregg said, 'Be true to these characters,'" said senior Ryane Studivant.

The actors have been through a lot of emotional ups and downs doing this show.

At left: Joe Hammock and sophomore Liz Beebe
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"As we've gone along in the process, as the characters become more real, it touches you on a new level," said senior Kristina Reese.

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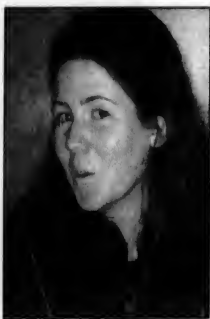
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Worth Stokes/ Bulletin

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Crossword 101

By Ed Canty

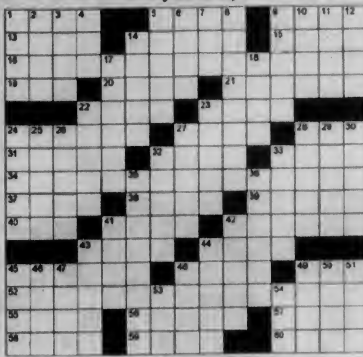
Yuletide Greetings

Across

- 1 Doctrines
5 Mother
9 Thin strip of wood
13 Acquired
14 Type of power
15 Land unit
16 Clement Moore, for one
19 Tool
20 Rotating mechanisms
21 Retrievers and Boxers
22 Heroic tale
23 Deceiver
24 Sweeping tool
27 Distribute cards
28 Newscaster Russert
31 Sum up
32 Advertising board
33 Nude
34 Charles Dickens' work
37 Mongrels
38 Money box
39 In the past
40 Before
41 Itsy-bitsy
42 African fly
43 Common people
44 Follows junk
45 Get away
48 Oven
49 Piglet's friend
52 Santa's treat
55 Transport
56 Losses at pin ball
57 Internet addresses
58 Bookies' ratio
59 Lyric poems
60 Snitches

Down

- 1 Restless desire
2 NYC district
3 Additional
4 Comes before lift or pole
5 Mother
6 Poor thing!



7 Advanced degrees

8 Yersan residents

9 Tardigr

10 Yarn

11 Trampled

12 Towel word

13 Bachelor affairs

14 Shrimp dish

18 Russian river

22 Glides

23 Legitimate

24 Support

25 Happen again

26 Orange-yellow color

27 Indistinctly

28 Fortune telling cards

29 Fresses

30 Disurbance

32 Reck

33 NYC doughnut

35 Dagger

36 Vegas sight

41 Spinning toys

42 Powders

43 Breaks down

44 Fogs

45 Repeat

46 Fish

47 Muck

48 Edible plant

49 Gumbo ingredient

50 Droop

51 Smaller in amount

53 At the center

54 ____ Town

Quarable Quote

A lovely thing about Christmas is that it's compulsory, like a thunderstorm, and we all go through it together.

- * * Garrison Kellor

By GFR Associates • PO Box 461 Schenectady, NY 12309 • Visit our web site at www.gfrpuzzles.com

Honor Does Not Apply Here

PAUL E. BURMAN

Guest Columnist

What does the honor code do for this college? Supposedly, when the student sign the contract accepting the honor code, you are baptized anew; you no longer steal, cheat or lie. But that is not really the case. People who are going to steal, cheat and lie are not deterred from committing crimes, as is clearly demonstrated by the crime reports in *The Bullet* that always seem include the stealing of a bicycle.

So what does the honor code really do for this college? It provides a selling point to students applying to the college, and gives current Mary Washington College students a false sense of security with their personal goods. If the honor code is violated, a student will be tried, convicted and probably expelled; that is all well and good, but where is the college's personal responsibility?

When I took a tour of this school in 2000, the guide told me that I could leave my backpack where ever I wanted and that I could leave my bike unlocked without fear because of the honor code. But what I have come to realize is that when something gets stolen around here it is probably because somebody left it in a position to be stolen, assuming that the honor code would prevent any thievery.

When the system fails and things get stolen it is the fault of Mary Washington College and they should be prosecuted for it. Anyone that has had something stolen has a case against the College for providing a false sense of security. I strongly believe that the College should be held accountable for every stolen wallet, video game, textbook, bicycle and everything else because it is their hope that leads to our woe.

There are benefits associated with having unproctored exams, and I am sure there are more ways the honor code helps students with teachers, but I have found few benefits of having an honor code when dealing with the campus police and with the administration. The honor code is fundamentally a system based on

personal integrity, but try telling that to the cops. Regardless of the case, the MWC police treat you with assumed guilt. They repeatedly tell you to confess to a crime that you may not have even committed. In cases where the honor code should apply, it doesn't. If you are accused of stealing a wallet, you will be interrogated in spite of claiming innocence on your word of honor. In a case like that, the honor code should clear your name of slanderous accusations, but it doesn't.

I recently have been questioned by the campus police about the singing of bulletin boards in Bushnell Hall. I had to talk to a police officer for over an hour about a crime that I didn't commit and that I have no knowledge of. His main point of interrogation centered around a long past offense and the fact that I smoke

cigarettes (that means I have "the equipment needed" to light something on fire). I have been told by administrators that I am constantly being watched here, and I was told by the aforementioned police officer that "cameras could easily be installed all over your hall to watch you, just like on Real TV." Claiming my innocence means nothing to anyone on this campus. There should be no need to watch my every move because on my word of honor I have told the police that I have done nothing wrong,

broken no rules.

What I have learned about the honor code is that it does not prevent crime and that it does not mean that your word of honor is of any value. If the honor code worked we would be able to bring book bags into Seacoast. If the honor code worked, we wouldn't need such a large police force. If the honor code worked there would be no need for the security devices in the library. But the honor code doesn't work; the administration knows that and has taken steps to prevent the school property from being stolen. The students, on the other hand, are force-fed self-righteousness which does not benefit them, but instead may result in harassment or even expulsion. You must remember that it was obligatory to sign the honor code, it is their rule, and it is their responsibility when the system fails.

Paul E. Burman is a sophomore.

'The Laramie Project' Inspires Calls For Peaceful Counter Protests

▲ LARAMIE, page 3

their backs on. Hitler and the Taliban took their hatred to an extreme, and look at what it led to: war. People like this only incite war. Rev. Phelps stands tall, shakes a Bible at you, and quotes the text out of context. He does this to bend people to his beliefs, even if there is no true foundation. There is enough trouble in the world without fighting amongst ourselves.

Though I do not speak for any group or other person, I have heard many people speak about this protest, and in return organizing an anti-protest. Such a turnout from people would speak more than words. I fear though, that some will take this a step too far. On March 1 and 2 think about Martin Luther King, Jr. and Gandhi; they both went to their graves advocating peace. The way to fight this hatred being forced on our doorsteps is not sink to the level of those that use hatred. Go and see "The Laramie Project," gather in front of duPont Hall as a sign of strength and union, but do so in a way to honor those who were murdered by hate.

Connie Maetzold is a junior.

The Bullet Handy-Dandy Guide To Selected Virginia Picketing Laws

The Basics:

No blocking people from going places

No violence or threats

No picketing private homes

B 18.2-404. Obstructing free passage of others.

Any person or persons who in any public place or on any private property open to the public unreasonably or unnecessarily obstructs the free passage of other persons to and from or within such place or property and who shall fail or refuse to cease such obstruction or move on when requested to do so by the owner or lessee or agent or employee of such owner or lessee or by a duly authorized law-enforcement officer shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit lawful picketing.

B 18.2-406. What constitutes an unlawful assembly; punishment.

Whenever three or more persons assemble share the common intent to advance some lawful or unlawful purpose by the commission of an act or acts of unlawful force or violence likely to jeopardize seriously public safety, peace or order, and the assembly actually tends to inspire persons of ordinary courage with well-grounded fear of serious and immediate breaches of public safety, peace or order, then such assembly is an unlawful assembly. Every person who

participates in any unlawful assembly shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. If any such person carried, at the time of his participation in an unlawful assembly, any firearm or other deadly or dangerous weapon, he shall be guilty of a Class 5 felony.

B 18.2-419. Picketing or disrupting tranquility of home.

Any person who shall engage in picketing before or about the residence or dwelling place of any individual, or who shall assemble with another person or persons in a manner which disrupts or threatens to disrupt any individual's right to tranquility in his home, shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. Each day on which a violation of this section occurs shall constitute a separate offense...

B 40.1-53. Preventing persons from pursuing lawful vocations, etc.; illegal picketing; injunction.

...No person shall engage in picketing by force or violence, or picket alone or in concert with others in such manner as to obstruct or interfere with free ingress or egress to and from any premises, or obstruct or interfere with free use of public streets, sidewalks or other public ways...

from The Code of Virginia

the Bullet

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Freshman Leaves After Gun Found In Dorm Room

By DEVIN WAIS
Scene Editor

When a handgun was found in freshman Avery Andon's Jefferson Hall dorm room, Andon sent himself home before the college had a chance.

According to Andon's girlfriend, freshman Hope Hassell, Andon withdrew from the college shortly after a .22 caliber pistol, along with individual bags of marijuana, smoking devices, alcohol, and a large sum of cash, was found during an administrative search on Feb. 4 in Andon's room.

"He wasn't planning on harming anyone," Hassell said. "Guys like guns, and they like to shoot bottles. That's all he did with it and that's all he was planning on doing with it."

Hassell said that Andon had gotten the gun, an RG make, the previous night as a present from his father, who is interested in hunting. He planned to bring the gun home with him to New York.

According to Lt. James Snipes, acting police director of the Police Department, a .22 caliber pistol is a semiautomatic handgun used for personal protection and target shooting, but not for hunting.

Andon could not be reached for comment. When tied at his home in New York, Andon's younger brother said that his mother had kicked Andon out of the house.

While there is no specific law banning firearms at public colleges in the state of Virginia, it says in the 2002-2003 student handbook that "No student shall keep, use, possess, display, or carry any rifle, shotgun, handgun, or other lethal or dangerous devices capable of casting a

projectile by air, gas, explosion, or mechanical means on any property or in any building owned or operated by the College."

According to Snipes, Andon was also breaking the Virginia state law that prohibits concealed weapons without a

permit. By hiding the gun in his room, police said that it could be considered concealed.

"In the incident that occurred, although it's kind of a gray area, the weapon was concealed, however it was in the residence hall, in what would be considered his residence," said Snipes.

Junior Scott Schultz, who lives in the single room across from Andon's, said that Andon had asked him about guns the previous semester.

"I didn't know he had one, but he did ask me before if I knew anything about 9 mms, things like that, how to get one," Schultz said. "I said you had to go get a pistol permit and he asked if I knew any other way to do it and I told him no."

According to Snipes, an anonymous call regarding Andon's gun came in to the police station on Feb. 4.

"The information was received anonymously and the standard for obtaining a search warrant wasn't met by having at least a confidential informant who was known to the police," Snipes said.

The police then contacted Residence Life, who performed an administrative search.

Rachel King, the head resident for Jefferson Hall, and Dawn Fike, assistant director of Residence Life, declined to comment. Chris Porter, director of Residence Life, could not be reached for comment.

Schultz said that he was there the day

Bernard Chirico, vice president for student affairs and dean of students, declined to comment on Andon's case.

Residents of Jefferson Hall had mixed reactions towards the discovery of Andon's gun.

"I wasn't surprised," said freshman

I didn't know, like selling drugs or something."

According to police and residents in the hall, there was also marijuana and a large amount of cash found in Andon's room.

"Cash I wouldn't expect," Schultz said.

"Pot, maybe,"

Hassell, Andon's girlfriend, said that the cash was from Christmas.

"I thought he was just interested in guns," Schultz said. "Now that I know what happened, I could see there were little hints that went that way, but I didn't see it coming."

According to Chirico, there have been previous incidents of firearms on campus which were related to reinforcers or target shooting.

Snipes said he cannot recall any incidents in the three years since he has been with the college but said there are firearms in the evidence locker which attest to previous incidents.

Residents of Jefferson said Andon was noisy, had a brash personality and was not liked by everyone on the hall.

"I didn't like him that much," Savage said. "We butt heads on some things. I didn't like how he treated people."

Freshman Dick Gronski felt similarly.

"He'd get pissed at little things," Gronski said. "He was just always loud."

Ryan Eby, Andon's roommate for the semester after Cook left, said Andon had been involved in fights the first semester.

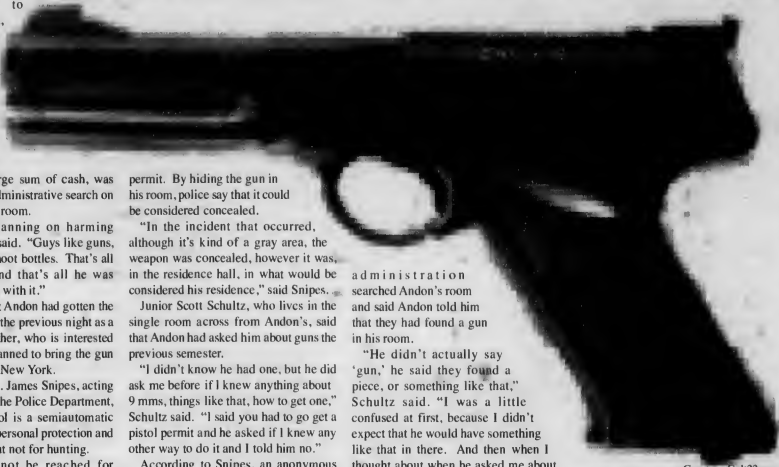
"Some people had problems with him, but I didn't," Eby said. "We were just tight."

"He was a nice guy," freshman Wes Hillyard said, Andon's resident assistant.

"He didn't give me any reason to have any troubles with him."

Hassell said she feels Andon is gaining a bad reputation on campus.

"I can understand when people hear that 'oh my gosh, he had a gun on campus,' it's a scary situation," Hassell said. "That's understandable."



Courtesy Colt22.com
A .22 caliber handgun.

Kemp Savage. "I don't think many people were surprised."

Freshman Tim Cook, Andon's roommate in the beginning of year, said that he didn't see the need for Andon to have a gun.

"It blew my mind," Cook said. "I didn't think he'd need a gun or anything like that, unless there was stuff about him that

administration searched Andon's room and said Andon told him that they had found a gun in his room.

"He didn't actually say 'gun,' he said they found a piece, or something like that," Schultz said. "I was a little confused at first, because I didn't expect that he would have something like that in there. And then when I thought about when he asked me about the information."

While most handbook violations are sent to the Judicial Review Board, Assistant Director of Residence Life, or the Office of Judicial Affairs and Community Responsibility, Ray Tuttle, director of Judicial Affairs and Community Responsibility, said violations of a serious nature would go straight to the vice president for Student Affairs.

Marye's Heights Makes New Room On Campus

French, Germans, Spanish To Take Over Madison Next Year

By LAURA HENDERSON
Assistant News Editor

As usual, next fall, upperclassmen will be surprised to see many of their old dorms change occupants.

Because of the addition of the Marye's Heights apartment complex, Residence Life has more space to fill and will be able to give some of that space to special interest housing. Right now, Residence Life does not anticipate any housing shortage for students who turned in their housing contract.

The biggest housing changes are within the Special Interest communities. Foreign Language, which now combines Spanish, French and German to the third floor of Westmoreland, will occupy all of Madison, while Westmoreland will remain upperclassmen and co-ed. The move will allow a separate floor for each language. Service learning,

which is currently in Madison, will move to Custis and will also receive more room than they currently have.

"Having more space gives us the opportunity to make changes," Director of Residence Life Christine Porter said. "It's in the best interest of the special interest communities to have these changes. We're always looking to improve the residential experience for students."

Students living in this year's foreign language floor are glad to be moving. "I think people are excited that there will be a foreign language building and that we will be our own self-contained community," said Elise Faskick, who lives in the Spanish section of the Foreign Language floor. "Westmoreland is great but we are looking forward to a

change. I don't know anyone who isn't excited for the move."

The added space allowed for some other minor changes as well to take place next year. Willard will be all upperclassmen as usual, but will be entirely doubles. Also, Mercer will become all freshmen and Virginia will have fewer, or possibly no triples.

Freshman Mary Beth Baylor, who lives in Virginia, used to live in a triple.

"Although the rooms are big, they are not big enough for three girls to live comfortably," Baylor said.

Brooke Ream, who also lives in Virginia, thinks it will help freshmen to have better roommate relationships.

"I'd prefer a double because it's just easier to live with one person than have a relationship with two people. Someone always gets left out," said Ream.

According to Porter, Special Interest Housing handles its own application process. Foreign language professors select students for their housing. In Service Learning, the residents take applications and pick their new hall mates.

For other students, housing selection begins for the apartments on March 3, homesteading is April 8 through the 10 and general selection is April 14 and 15.

7qe? 5az? 7ei? 3xw?

Why Are Student Email Addresses So Bizarre?

By CONOR REILLY
Staff Writer

When junior Kiara Kerwin first came to Mary Washington College she thought the email address that had been assigned to her had some strange characters on the end.

In addition to her first initial and the first four letters of her last name, her email address had "5qy" before the @mwc.edu.

"I've always wondered why they are there," Kerwin said. "They seem pretty random."

Every student entering the college receives an email address consists of eight characters, the one being the students first initial plus the first four letters of the student's last name. The last three characters, a number and two letters, are randomly generated by the HP-3000, the college's mainframe computer.

According to Joe Haynes, the director of network services, the college does this to provide unique email addresses.

"For instance, if there are two John Smiths here, this system ensures that they won't have the same address," Haynes said.

College officials said the college does not reuse email addresses, either. So with more than 1000 students matriculating each year, these random characters allow for more coincidence.

"It's also nice because someone cannot guess your address just by knowing your name, and then send you junk email," said Carol Martin, information technology project manager.

College officials said another reason for the decision was that the software limited the login system to only eight characters. There are a finite number of combinations within an eight-character system. By deciding on the three character arrangement, the administration attempted to get the

most number of addresses possible.

However, faculty and staff email addresses are different and somewhat more simple. College officials said this is because there are fewer faculty members that are typically at the college longer than the students. Therefore, the probability that faculty members will have the same name is less. Even so, there are a few faculty and staff members that do have the same name. These email addresses are differentiated by adding a number at the end of the address.

Login passwords for students are equally as baffling. Other state institutions allow students to create and change their own passwords. On campus, though, this is not an option.

"There have been problems with passwords being a pet's name or something obvious," Martin said. "Having a scrambled password makes it a little more secure."

Other colleges cope with this issue differently. U.Va. uses a similar system for its email addresses. Penn State University uses a six character system including the initials of the student followed by three random numbers. Syracuse University only adds numbers when students have the same name.

Hewlett Packard has recently declared the college's HP-3000 obsolete, which means the college will have to make a decision to change the current email address system or to keep it the same.

"The college may or may not change the login system with the new hardware," Martin said. "Right now we have no plans to change it."

Because the new software will not contain the same program for generating the email addresses, the technical staff will have to write the program themselves if they choose to keep it the same.

"We're always looking to improve the residential experience for students."

Christine Porter

Snow Throws Classes Out of Whack

▲ SYLLABUS, page 11

Naden said that is exactly what his professors are doing.

"Nothing changing," he said. "They are just piling on the work."

Romero said that the full effects of the snow days on his classes remain to be seen.

"For most of my classes, I would say, not at all," he said. "Rapport is the essential thing—the idea of a class mind, a thread of discussion that carries over from class to class—that is more important than having read this or that group of pages. I am a big picture person and that picture will not change because I have selected to omit [some assignments]."

Students said that they enjoyed their four-day weekend, but in the end they were ready to go back.

"It was a nice break but it made me lazy," Burgess said.

"No school was good but it got a little ridiculous," Sledz said.

One of the school's concerns was if, when, and how to make up the missed days. In a letter sent to the faculty, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs John Morello said that there will be no make-up days added to the spring 2003 schedule.

"Several factors contributed to this decision," he said in the letter. "Extending the semester creates scheduling complications for students and faculty, adds costs, and squeezes the time available between the end of exams and the deadlines for reporting the final grades."

Hall said that the faculty was asked whether or not they felt they needed make-up days and about two-thirds of the respondents said no.

"If we get more snow closings we may revisit that decision," he said. "We will cross that bridge if and when we come to it. Let's hope we do not."

Snowy Setbacks

▲ SEACOCK, page 11

Lebreque said the help of Miller and Roan was very appreciated.

"We pretty much just helped clean up, and get ready for dinner," Miller said.

One last complication was added to the day.

The regularly scheduled food delivery truck could not reach the college. While this was inconvenient, The Wood Company simply changed the menu to utilize what they had.

"I thought the food was just fine. I was even impressed by the spread they had out for Monday," said sophomore Chris Halbert.

"I had no problem with it," said senior Joseph Thornhill. "Except I couldn't find the soy milk, and the plastic forks were kind of a hassle to use."

Recycle The Bulletin Recycle The Bulletin